

**AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING FOR
PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS, HYDROLOGISTS AND SOIL SCIENTISTS
MINUTES
MADISON, WISCONSIN
March 2, 1999**

PRESENT: Joan Underwood, Fred Birts, Thomas Evans, Stephen Donohue, Herbert Garn, Roger Hall, Patrick McGuire, and E. Jerry Tyler

ABSENT: Wayne Lindgren, David Mickelson, and Robert Karnauskas

STAFF PRESENT: Alfred Hall, Jan Bobholz; Marlene Cummings, Wayne Austin, and Darwin Tichenor were present for portions of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00. by Alfred Hall, Bureau Director. A quorum of 8 members was present.

AGENDA

The agenda was adopted by consensus.

MINUTES (02/10/99)

The minutes should be amended as follows: under NEW BUSINESS it should read "The Committee requested that the E-mail message of Secretary Cummings 2/5/99, regarding Wetland Scientists be placed on the next agenda.

MOTION: Thomas Evans moved, seconded by Joan Underwood, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Secretary Cummings' Report

• **Criteria for Decisions**

Secretary Marlene Cummings presented the Criteria for Decisions which is the working document for the department. The goal of the criteria is the charge of the department and boards with the protection of the broad public interest; the objectives of the boards are to regulate and discipline the professions they represent and the department's role is to provide administrative support to the boards, by monitoring all initiatives, work and projects of the boards and the department to ensure accountability to the governor, legislature and the public. Secretary Cummings went on to identify the assumptions that professions could regulate themselves and still be accountable to the public they serve by responding to complaints with just, speedy and effective discipline, identifying

the minimum competency standards which protect the health safety and welfare of the broad public.

- **Timelines in the Enforcement Complaint Handling Process**

Secretary Cummings explained the Timelines in the Enforcement Complaint Handling Process to the committee members. She explained that the policy identifies a period, in days, for processing complaint through each step of the complaint handling process and describes the steps that will be taken if handling a complaint is not completed in the prescribed time. These timelines apply to both department and board members. The policy covers all complaints received after February 1, 1999.

The Timelines Policy itself was an important achievement of many contributors, especially the Ad Hoc Enforcement Advisory Committee.

Bureau Director's Report

- **Joint Board Roster**

The Committee received a copy of the committee membership roster. Noted.

- **Proposed 1999 Meeting Dates**

The Committee set the following dates for meetings: March 15, 1999, and March 30, 1999. All meetings will begin at 8:30 a.m. The Committee will set the remainder of the 1999 meeting dates at its next meeting for the Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists, as well as for each section based on the examination dates.

- **Board Member Binders**

Board member binders will be distributed to all members of the Soil Scientists Section and the Hydrologist Section.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Chapter 470, as created by 1997 Wisconsin Act 300

Noted.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES UPDATE

Administrative Rules Flow Chart

Noted.

Scope Statement

A Scope Statement is a notice of the intent of the Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists to promulgate administrative rules, establishing requirements and standards for their respective professions. Alfred Hall stated that he will draft a scope statement and submit it to the Examining Board after members have been confirmed by the Senate.

Discussion of the Intent of the Promulgation Of Rules

The Professional Geologists Section recommended the following changes:

Amend GHSS 2.04 Education to read: (1) In satisfaction of the education requirement under s. 470.04(2)(b), Stats., the professional geologist section shall accept a bachelor[s degree in geology, or a degree reflecting that the applicant has completed at least 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of course credits in geology of a variety and nature sufficient to constitute a major in geology, granted by a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting agency approved by the state board of education in the state in which the college or university is located, or accredited by a Canadian accrediting agency satisfactory to the board.

Amend GHSS 2.04 (4) to read: The second (3) should be changed to (4). In addition to the coursework required under sub (2), other coursework that may be used to satisfy the 30 semester hour or 45 quarter hour requirement include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) Geochemistry, (b) Applied geophysics, (c) Geomorphology, (d) Glacial geology, (e) Hydrogeology, (f) Paleontology, (g) Mining geology, (h) Petroleum geology, (i) Engineering geology.

Amend GHSS 2.05 to read: (2)(a) Be of not less than a second semester senior in a bachelor's program in geology meeting the requirements of s. GHSS 2.04.

Amend GHSS 2.05 (2)(b) to read: Be of not less than a second semester senior and have completed at least 24 semester hours or 36 quarter hours of course credits in geology in a bachelor's program meeting the requirements of GHSS 2.04.

Amend GHSS 2.05 (2)(c) to read: Have at least 5 years of experience which is determined by the professional geologist section to be equivalent to the requirements of s. GHSS 2.04.

Amend GHSS 2.06(3 to read: For applicants applying under s. 470.(2)(c)1., Stats., a completed "supervised geologic experience" form completed by an individual who has firsthand knowledge of the applicant's supervised experience relating to professional geology and who is one of the following:

Amend GHSS. 2.06 (5) to read: References from at least 5 individuals, at least 3 of whom shall be professionally competent to evaluate the applicant's practice, at least one of whom shall be registered as a professional geologist in this state or from original state of licensure if applicant is currently licensed in another state.

Amend GHSS 2.06 Note to read: Application forms, including the "supervised geologic experience" form and the "peer evaluation" form are available on

request to the, Professional Geologists Section, 1400 E. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708.

The Professional Hydrologists Section recommended the following changes:

Amend GHSS 3.03(2) to read: Areas of experience in the practice of professional hydrology include: (a) Collection and inventory of basic hydrological data, (b) Interpretation, analysis and modeling of hydrological processes, (c) Planning and designing of hydrological systems.

Amend GHSS 3.04 Education. (1) to read: In satisfaction of the education requirement under s. 470.04(3)(b), Stats., the professional hydrologist section shall accept a bachelor's degree in hydrology or water resources, or a degree reflecting that the applicant has completed at least 10 semester hours or 15 quarter hours in surface water hydrology, subsurface hydrology or water resources and 20 semester hours or 30 quarter hours in surface water hydrology, subsurface hydrology or water resources related courses.

Amend GHSS 3.05(2)(a) to read: Be of not less than a second semester senior in a bachelor's program in hydrology or water resources meeting the requirements of s. GHSS 3.04.

Amend GHSS 3.05 (2)(b) to read: Be of not less than a second semester senior and have completed at least 24 semester hours or 36 quarter hours of course credits in hydrology or water resources in a bachelor's program meeting the requirements of GHSS 3.04.

Amend GHSS 3.06 Note to read: Application forms, including the "supervised hydrologic experience" form and the "peer evaluation" form are available on request to the Professional Hydrologists Section, 1400 E. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708.

The Professional Soil Scientist License Section recommended the following changes:

Amend GHSS 4.03(2) to read: Areas of experience in the practice of professional soil science include: (a) Soil physics, including assessment of soil physical properties, water, heat and gas balances, and distribution and movement gaseous and liquid solutions and heat; (b) Soil chemistry including the reactions and interactions of substances such as precipitation, adsorption, chelation and oxidation-reduction, (c) Soil classification includes morphology and mapping including the description, classification and interpretation of soil materials in the landscape, (d) Soil biology including the identification and function of organisms and the cycle in which they function (e) Soil fertility including the analysis and interpretation of nutrients for plant growth and environmental quality, (f) Land use management includes management of land

application of waste, nutrient management, non- point sources, soil and water conservation and other soil related issues.

Amend GHSS 4.04 Education. (1) to read: In satisfaction of the education requirement under s. 470.04(4)(b), Stats., the professional soil scientist section shall accept a bachelor's degree in soil science, or a bachelor's degree reflecting that the applicant has completed at least 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of course credits of a variety and nature sufficient to constitute a major in soil science, granted by a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting agency approved by the state board of education in the state in which the college or university is located, or accredited by a Canadian accrediting agency satisfactory to the board.

Amend GHSS 4.04(3) to read: In order to be considered a major in soil science, an applicant must complete at least 15 semester hours of course credits in soil science which include credits in at least three of the following areas: (a) Soil physics, (b) Soil chemistry, (c) Soil biology, (d) Soil fertility, (e) Soil classification, morphology and mapping.

Amend GHSS 4.04(4) to read : In addition to the coursework required under sub (2), other coursework that may be used to satisfy the 30 semester hour or 45 quarter hour requirement include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) Geology, (b) Engineer, (c) Agricultural engineering, (d) Hydrology, (e) Agronomy, (f) Horticulture, (g) Meteorology, (h) Bacteriology, (i) Botany, (j) Plant pathology, (k) Forestry.

Amend GHSS 4.06 Note to read: Application forms, including the "supervised soil science experience" form and the "peer evaluation" form are available on request to the Professional Soil Scientist Section, 1400 E. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS AND UPDATE

College and University Requirements for Licensure of Hydrologists and Soil Scientists

For information.

EXAMINATIONS

Examination Development Update

Darwin Tichenor of the Office of Examinations informed the Committee that the first soil science examination is scheduled for October 1999 and the department anticipates that the Soil Science Section will approve the exam administered by the Council of Soil Science Examiners.

The first hydrology examination is scheduled for January 2000. Question writing has begun and the Office of Examination needs an item bank of a minimum of 400 questions. Exam question reviews are scheduled for April 16, May 7 and May 21. Mr. Tichenor informed the members that an examination will be written for the fundamentals exam and that there will be a practice exam for surface water and a practice exam for groundwater.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION

E-Mail: Wetland Scientists, et al, 2/5/99, Cummings

The members determined that wetland delineation does involve geology, hydrology and soil science. Members asked if SEWRPAC would be exempted under Ch. 470, Stats. Mr. Hall will research the issue and inform members at the next meeting. Members decided to see if there is a response to the E-mail and any other subsequent information and to identify this as active monitoring with the understanding that priorities at this time are to draft administrative rules and to clarify education, exam and experience requirements for Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

SUCH OTHER ITEMS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m. by consensus.